

In Re Application of: Way, Frederic L. II et al.
Serial No.: 09/686,235
Filed: October 11, 2000
For: Gravity Driven Steerable Vehicle

Group Art Unit: 3618
Examiner: Klebe, Gerald B.
Dkt. No: TS097-cipSLED
Paper No. 7

at least one but not more than two front wheel hub and spindle assemblies integral with said front axle assembly; and

further comprising means for retrofitting said gravity driven steerable wheeled vehicle with at least one ski assembleable to at least one of said at least one but not more than two rear wheel hub and spindle assemblies and said at least one but not more than two front wheel hub and spindle assemblies.

B) 2. (amended) The gravity driven steerable vehicle according to claim 1 further comprising means for causing deceleration and halting of motion of said vehicle when said vehicle has motion.

3. (amended) The gravity driven steerable vehicle according to claim 1 further comprising means for harnessing the rider onto and into said rider riding surface when said rider is positioned on said vehicle.

4. (amended) The gravity driven steerable vehicle according to claim 2 further comprising means for harnessing the rider onto and into said rider riding surface when said rider is positioned on said vehicle.

5. (amended) The gravity driven steerable vehicle according to claim 1 further comprising means for absorbing shock exerted on said at least one ski attached to said at least one but not more than two front wheel hub and spindle assemblies thereby damping shock, caused by said vehicle passing over rough terrain, between said at least one ski and said front axle assembly.

6. (amended) The gravity driven steerable vehicle according to claim 3 further comprising means for absorbing shock exerted on said at least one ski attached to said at least one but not more than two front wheel hub and spindle assemblies thereby damping

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shock, caused by said vehicle passing over rough terrain, between said at least one ski and said front axle assembly.

b) 7. (amended) The gravity driven steerable vehicle according to claim 4 further comprising means for absorbing shock exerted on said at least one ski attached to said at least one but not more than two front wheel hub and spindle assemblies thereby damping shock, caused by said vehicle passing over rough terrain, between said at least one ski and said front axle assembly.

8. (amended) The gravity driven steerable vehicle according to claim 5 further comprising means for absorbing shock exerted on said at least one ski attached to said at least one but not more than two rear wheel hub and spindle assemblies thereby damping shock, caused by said vehicle passing over rough terrain, between said at least one ski and said rear axle assembly.

9. (amended) The gravity driven steerable vehicle according to claim 6 further comprising means for absorbing shock exerted on said at least one ski attached to said at least one but not more than two rear wheel hub and spindle assemblies thereby damping shock, caused by said vehicle passing over rough terrain, between said at least one ski and said rear axle assembly.

10. (amended) The gravity driven steerable vehicle according to claim 7 further comprising means for absorbing shock exerted on said at least one ski attached to said at least one but not more than two rear wheel hub and spindle assemblies thereby damping

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shock, caused by said vehicle passing over rough terrain, between said at least one ski and said rear axle assembly.

11. (amended) The gravity driven steerable vehicle according to claim 1 wherein said means steering said gravity driven steerable wheeled vehicle comprises a steering system for steering said front axle assembly.

12. (amended) The gravity driven steerable vehicle according to claim 10 wherein said means steering said gravity driven steerable wheeled vehicle comprises a steering system for steering said front axle assembly.

13. (amended) The gravity driven steerable vehicle according to claim 1 wherein said means steering said gravity driven steerable wheeled vehicle comprises a steering system for steering said rear axle assembly.

14. (amended) The gravity driven steerable vehicle according to claim 10 wherein said means steering said gravity driven steerable wheeled vehicle comprises a steering system for steering said rear axle assembly.

15. (amended) The gravity driven steerable vehicle according to claim 11 wherein said means steering said gravity driven steerable wheeled vehicle further comprises a steering system for steering said rear axle assembly.

16. (amended) The gravity driven steerable vehicle according to claim 12 wherein said means steering said gravity driven steerable wheeled vehicle comprises a steering system for steering said rear axle assembly.

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17. (amended) The gravity driven steerable vehicle according to claim 2 wherein said means for causing deceleration and halting of motion of said vehicle is at least one hydraulic brake mechanism braking said skis assembled to said front wheel hub and spindle assemblies.

18. (amended) The gravity driven steerable vehicle according to claim 12 wherein said means for causing deceleration and halting of motion of said vehicle is at least one hydraulic brake mechanism braking said skis assembled to said front wheel hub and spindle assemblies.

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19. (amended) The gravity driven steerable vehicle according to claim 16 wherein said means for causing deceleration and halting of motion of said vehicle is at least one hydraulic brake mechanism braking said skis assembled to said front wheel hub and spindle assemblies.

20. A gravity driven steerable vehicle for use on snow covered terrain comprising:

a chassis having a front portion, a rear portion, an underside and a top side;

a rider riding surface on said chassis top side configured to cause a rider on said rider riding surface to be oriented in a prone, face down, face forward position;

means for attaching a rear axle assembly substantially at said chassis rear portion;

means for mounting a front axle assembly substantially at said chassis front portion;

means for steering said gravity driven steerable vehicle by said rider when said rider is positioned on said rider riding surface;

two rear hub and spindle assemblies integral with said rear axle assembly, one rear hub and spindle assembly at each end of said rear axle assembly; and

two front hub and spindle assemblies integral with said front axle assembly, one front hub and spindle assembly at each end of said front axle assembly; and

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means for attaching one ski assembleable to each of said two rear hub and spindle assemblies and said two front hub and spindle assemblies.

21. The gravity driven steerable vehicle for use on snow covered terrain according to claim 20 further comprising means for causing deceleration and halting of motion of said vehicle when said vehicle has motion.

22. The gravity driven steerable vehicle for use on snow covered terrain according to claim 20 further comprising means for harnessing the rider onto and into said rider riding surface when said rider is positioned on said vehicle.

23. (amended) The gravity driven steerable vehicle for use on snow covered terrain according to claim 21 further comprising means for harnessing the rider onto and into said rider riding surface when said rider is positioned on said vehicle.

24. (amended) The gravity driven steerable vehicle for use on snow covered terrain according to claim 20 further comprising means for absorbing shock exerted on said ski attached to said two front hub and spindle assemblies thereby damping shock, caused by said vehicle passing over rough terrain, between said front attached skiis and said front axle assembly.

25. (amended) The gravity driven steerable vehicle for use on snow covered terrain according to claim 22 further comprising means for absorbing shock exerted on said ski attached to said two front hub and spindle assemblies thereby damping shock, caused by said vehicle passing over rough terrain, between said front attached skiis and said front axle assembly.

26. (amended) The gravity driven steerable vehicle for use on snow covered terrain according to claim 23 further comprising means for absorbing shock exerted on